Setting up of forest based industry at Phulbani in Orissa

562. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a scope to set up forest based industries in Phulbani district, Orissa;

(b) whether the proposals to set up some pulp and paper mills in Phulbani district are pending since long;

(c) if so, the reasons of the delay in setting up those units;

(d) the stage at which the proposals are pending; and

(e) the steps taken to clear the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) While there is a scope to set up some forest based industries in Orissa, Government do not encourage the setting up of wood based industry on account of the National Forest Policy.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

T. V. Serials

563. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of T.V. serials certified and screened since 1989 yearwise, details; and

(b) whether any procedure and norms have been fixed for guiding the certification of these serials and if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Proposals for T. V. serials under different schemes are received and approved by various Doordarshan Kendras for telecast from the concerned Kendra. No centralised list of serials approved and telecast is, therefore, maintained.

(b) Yes, Sir. The following are the broad norms for selection of serials:

(i) Story line and its contemporary relevance;

(ii) Treatment of the theme;

(iii) Overall competence of the technical crew; and

(iv) Relevance to Doordarshan's Programme requirements.

Sick Industries

564. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government propose to take in relation to sick industries in both the public and private sectors; and

(b) what effects these steps would have on those employed in these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) Government of India has taken a number of steps in relation to revival of sick industries in both the public and private sectors. Whenever proposals are received by the Government for revival of sick units, they are examined on merits with reference to the policy guidelines on sick industries. Some of the important aspects are given in the statement.

According to the New Industrial Policy announced on 24-7-1991, public enterprises which are chronically sick and which are unlikely to be turned around will, for the formulation of revival/rehabilitation schemes, be referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), or other similar high level institutions created for the purpose. A social security mechanism will be created to protect the interests of workers likely to be affected by such rehabilitation packages.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government of India for the revival of seck industrial units

(i) The Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation namely, 'The Sick Industiral Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985'. A quasi-judicial body designated as 'The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)' has been set up under the Act to deal with the problems of the sick industrial companies in an effective manner, which has become operational with effect from the 15th May, 1987.

(ii) The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening the monitoring systems and for arresting industrial sickness at the incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time.

(iii) The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units. The banks and financial institution evolve rehabilitation packages for the revival of sick units.

(iv) Reserve Bank of India have also issued guidelines separately to the banks indicating parameters within which banks could grant reliefs and concessions for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units wtihout reference to RBI both in the large and small scale sector.

(v) Government of India introduced a Margin Money Scheme with a view to supplementing the efforts of the State Goverments in reducing the incidence of sickness in the small scale sector. Under the liberalised scheme the maximum amount of assistance per unit available to sick small scale units for rehabilitation has been increased from Rs. 20,000- to Rs. 50,000/-.

(vi) An Excise Relief Scheme for weak units has also been announced. The scheme would apply to any unit in which 50 per cent or more of the maximum net worth in any of the previous five accounting years has been erod by accumulated losses. The unit shou have a rehabilitation, modernisation diversification package approved by designated financial institution. T eligible unit would be entitled to interest free loan, with a grace peri of 3 years and repayable over seven ye amounting to 50 per cent of its act excise payments for three years sub quent to the approval of the scher The total amount given by way of st 'Excise Loans' will not exceed 25 cent of the overall cost of rehabilitatic modernisation/diversification.

(vii) A small Industries Developm Bank of India (SIDBI) has been establi ed in April, 1990 to function as an A Bank for tiny and small scale industr The paid up capital of this bank Rs. 250 crores.

SIDBI has been organising rehabilitat meets in different states to help prim lending institutions (PLIs) and promot in drawing up mutually acceptable rehat tation packages for potentially viable s SSI units. During 1990-91, 23 meets w organised at 14 centres where cases ove 250 units were discussed. The ponsible from the PLIs and borrowers such meets has been encouraging.

A separate Refinance Scheme for habilitation (RSR) is being operated SIDBI for revival of potentially vi sick units.

Shortage of essential commodities i Maharashtra

565. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMR PATIL:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be plea to state:

(a) the allocation of wheat, rice, rock-palm-oil to Maharashtra from 1st Janu 1991 to the 1st August, 1991 and the lative demands per month from the S Government;